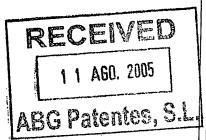
PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY

To:

ARIAS SANZ, Juan ABG Patentes, S.L. Orense, 68, 7th floor E-28020 Madrid ESPAGNE



PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Rule 71.1)

Date of mailing

(day/month/year)

09.08.2005

Applicant's or agent's file reference

P1254PC00

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

International application No. PCT/ES2003/000510

International filing date (day/month/year) 08.10.2003

Priority date (day/month/year)

08.10.2003

Applicant

INNOVAPROTEAN, S.L. et al.

- 1. The applicant is hereby notified that this International Preliminary Examining Authority transmits herewith the international preliminary examination report and its annexes, if any, established on the international application.
- 2. A copy of the report and its annexes, if any, is being transmitted to the International Bureau for communication to all the elected Offices.
- 3. Where required by any of the elected Offices, the International Bureau will prepare an English translation of the report (but not of any annexes) and will transmit such translation to those Offices.

4. REMINDER

The applicant must enter the national phase before each elected Office by performing certain acts (filing translations and paying national fees) within 30 months from the priority date (or later in some Offices) (Article 39(1)) (see also the reminder sent by the International Bureau with Form PCT/IB/301).

Where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report. It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned.

For further details on the applicable time limits and requirements of the elected Offices, see Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

The applicant's attention is drawn to Article 33(5), which provides that the criteria of novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability described in Article 33(2) to (4) merely serve the purposes of international preliminary examination and that "any Contracting State may apply additional or different criteria for the purposes of deciding whether, in that State, the claimed inventions is patentable or not" (see also Article 27(5)). Such additional criteria may relate, for example, to exemptions from patentability, requirements for enabling disclosure, clarity and support for the claims.

Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:

European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 enmu d **Authorized Officer**

Parriche, S

Tel. +49 89 2399-7890



PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

| Applicant's or agent's file reference P1254PC00 | | | | FOR FURTHER ACTION | FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416) | | |
|---|---|---------------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| | International application No. PCT/ES2003/000510 | | | International filing date (day/mo | onth/year) Priority date (day/month/year) 08.10.2003 | | |
| CO: | Icant | .PRO | TEAN, S.L. et al. | both national classification and IPC | pared by this International Preliminary Examining | | |
| 2. | | This bee (see | s report is also accompa n amended and are the e Rule 70.16 and Section nexes consist of a total | basis for this report and/or she n 607 of the Administrative Inst | s of the description, claims and/or drawings which have eets containing rectifications made before this Authority structions under the PCT). | | |
| 3. | Thie | rano | | elating to the following items: | | | |
| J. | | · | | saung to the following items. | | | |
| | 1 , | _ | Basis of the opinion | | | | |
| | 11 | | Priority | | | | |
| | III | | | | inventive step and industrial applicability | | |
| | IV V | | Reasoned statement unitations and explanations | | ard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; | | |
| | VI | | Certain documents cite | ed | • | | |
| | VII | | Certain defects in the i | international application | | | |
| | VIII | | | | | | |
| Date of submission of the demand | | | | Date of | of completion of this report. | | |
| 21.0 | 3.200 | 05 | | 09.08 | 09.08.2005 | | |
| | | exami | address of the international authority: opean Patent Office | al Authori | rized Officer | | |
| | | D-8 | opean Patent Office 0298 Munich +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 52365 | Heibl, | I, C | | |

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10/574875 IAP9 Rec'd PCT/PTO 06 APR 2005

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/ES2003/000510

| I. Basis | of the | repor | t |
|----------|--------|-------|---|
|----------|--------|-------|---|

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)):

| | De | scription, Pages | |
|----|-------------|--|---|
| | 1-2 | 29 | filed with telefax on 21.03.2005 |
| | Cl | aims, Numbers | |
| | | · | ; ; ; ; ; ; ; ; ; ; ; ; ; ; ; ; ; ; ; |
| | 1-9 | | filed with telefax on 21.03.2005 |
| | Dra | awings, Sheets | |
| | 1/1 | | filed with telefax on 21.03.2005 |
| 2. | Wit lan | h regard to the langu guage in which the in | lage, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the ternational application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item. |
| | The | ese elements were av | vailable or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is: |
| | | the language of a tr | anslation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)). |
| | | the language of pub | lication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)). |
| | | the language of a translated Rule 55.2 and/or 55 | anslation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under .3). |
| 3. | Wit inte | h regard to any nucl e rnational preliminary | eotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing: |
| | | contained in the inte | rnational application in written form. |
| | | filed together with th | e international application in computer readable form. |
| | | furnished subseque | ntly to this Authority in written form. |
| | | furnished subseque | ntly to this Authority in computer readable form. |
| | □ . | The statement that t in the international a | he subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure pplication as filed has been furnished. |
| | | The statement that t listing has been furn | he information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence ished. |
| 1. | The | amendments have r | esulted in the cancellation of: |
| | | the description, | pages: |
| | | the claims, | Nos.: |
| | | the drawings, | sheets: |
| | | | |

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/ES2003/000510

| 5. 🗆 | This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have |
|------|--|
| | been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)). |

(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N) Yes: Claims 1-9

No: Claims

Inventive step (IS) Yes: Claims 1-9

No: Claims

Industrial applicability (IA) Yes: Claims 1-9

No: Claims

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET

Re Item V

Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

D1 - WO-A 98/46234

D2 - EP-A 082 404

D3 - WO-A 98/20864

The present invention provides 'diffunisal' derivatives having use as inhibitors of the formation of amyloid fibrils associated with transthyretin (amyloidogenesis inhibitors), thus being suitable for the treatment of neurogenerative diseases.

The present compounds of formula (I) (see claim 1) are in particular characterized by having a iodine substituent in 5-position of the basic molecule (2',4'-difluoro-4-hydroxy-3biphenylcarboxylic acid). Since none of the prior art documents D1-D3 discloses such 5iodo derivatives, the claimed compounds (claims 1-3) and the subject-matter of claims 4-9 related herewith can be considered novel (Art. 33(2) PCT).

The effect of said iodation leading to an enhanced activity (amyloidogenesis inhibition) as compared to non-iodated derivatives (see the experimental part of the present application) cannot be derived from the teaching of the available prior art documents. Indeed, D1 which merely theoretically covers iodo derivatives of certain diflunisal ester derivatives (see the definition of R₃ which includes inter alia "halo", the position of R₃ being not defined) relates to compounds having anti-platelet activity, hydroxy radical scavenging properties which makes them suitable for the treatment or control of thrombosis and ischaemic/perfusion injury of tissues such as liver.

D2 deals with analgesic and anti-inflammatory diflunisal derivatives, D3 with antiinflammatory diflunisal derivatives which are also suitable for the treatment of neurogenerative diseases. In addition, neither D2 nor D3 suggests iodination of diflunisal derivatives.

Having regard to the prior art, the subject-matter of claims 1-9 is also considered to meet the requirements of Art. 33(3) PCT.

The subject-matter of claims 1-9 also meets the criteria Art. 33(4) PCT (industrial

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY

International application No. PCT/ES2003/000510

EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET

applicability).